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to submit abstracts of papers well in advance of the date of the meeting at which they are to be presented.

DAYTON C. MILLER,  
*Secretary*

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THE RED CROSS AND PROFESSOR RICHARD P. STRONG

DR. RICHARD P. STRONG, professor of tropical medicine at the Harvard Medical School, sailed on October 2 for Europe, where he is to be general medical director of the League of Red Cross Societies, with headquarters in Geneva. He has been granted leave of absence for a year by Harvard University.

The league is a new international association of the Red Cross planned to act as a central agency for the improvement of public health, the prevention of disease and the mitigation of suffering throughout the world. It will also serve in cases of national or international disaster. Another of its purposes is to promote the welfare of mankind by furnishing a medium for bringing within the reach of all the peoples the benefits to be derived from present known facts, new contributions and medical knowledge and their application.

Henry P. Davison is chairman of the board of governors of the league, and the director-general of the league is Lieutenant-General Sir David Henderson, of Great Britain. The public health work and general medical activities of the league will be under the direction of Dr. Strong. In this position he will be the executive at Geneva responsible for stimulating the medical work of the various Red Cross societies and putting the latest medical information at the disposal of each of them. His office will be the general headquarters of the fight against epidemic diseases, such as that of influenza, which recently swept across the world, and particularly against the terrible typhus and other tropical epidemics.

Dr. Strong is fitted for this task by knowledge and experience. He went to the Harvard Medical School in 1913 with a distinguished record as a student of tropical diseases in the Philippine Islands, where he had begun as an

army medical officer. In 1915 he was the leader of the international corps of workers who combatted the typhus epidemic in Serbia which had taken many thousands of lives.

After the United States entered the war in 1917, Dr. Strong was in charge of the Division of Infectious Diseases of the American Expeditionary Forces. He has received the Distinguished Service Medal of the American Expeditionary Forces, the British Order of Commander of the Bath, Officer of the French Legion of Honor and the Chinese Striped Tiger, and has been made Grand Officer of the Serbian Cross of St. Salva.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE autumn meeting of the National Academy of Sciences will be held on November 10, 11 and 12, at Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut. Announcement of the arrangements for the meeting will be made later by the local committee.

DR. R. W. WOOD, professor of physics in the Johns Hopkins University, has been elected a foreign member of the Royal Society, London.

THE nomination of Mr. James R. Riggs, as assistant secretary of agriculture, has been confirmed by the Senate.

DR. D. G. BYERS, of the University of Washington, recently a captain in the Chemical Warfare Service in Washington, has been appointed chief of the division of chemistry of the Bureau of Soils.

MAJOR DOUGLAS JOHNSON, professor of physiography at Columbia University, has returned from Paris where he served as chief of the Division of Boundary Geography on the American Commission to Negotiate Peace, and as a member of different international territorial commissions.

RUSSELL L. CECIL, M.D., lately major, M. C., U. S. Army, William A. Perlzweig, Ph.D., lately lieutenant, Sanitary Corps, U. S. Army, and Mr. G. I. Steffen, lately lieutenant, Sanitary Corps, U. S. Army, have been engaged by the U. S. Public Health Service to carry out experimental investigations on influenza and pneumonia. The work will be conducted